

Having, thus, described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. An oil filter, comprising:

a hollow housing having an inlet and an outlet and defining a chamber therein with a flow path between the inlet and outlet;

a mechanically active filter member disposed inside the housing in the flow path; and
a chemically active filter member disposed inside the housing in the flow path;

wherein the chemically active filter member comprises a plurality of particles comprising a beneficial additive to be released into engine oil as said engine oil circulates through the filter, said particles comprising an oil conditioning agent selected from the group consisting of imidazoline-phosphonate salts, substituted triazoles, sulfurized carboxylates, phenolic compounds, arylamino compounds, substituted thiazoles, substituted thiadiazoles, phosphosulfurized olefins, zinc dithiophosphates, and zinc dialkyldithiophosphates, aromatic sulfides, aromatic polysulfides, alkyl sulfides, alkyl polysulfides, sulfurized olefins, sulfurized carboxylic acid esters, sulfurized ester-olefins, and mixtures thereof.

2. The oil filter of claim 1, wherein said particles further comprise a basic salt selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, potassium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, aluminum dihydroxy sodium carbonate, magnesium oxide, magnesium carbonate, zinc oxide, sodium bicarbonate, sodium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof.

3. The oil filter of claim 1, wherein the particles further comprise a polymeric binder selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyimides, polyesters, polyolefins, polysulfones, and mixtures thereof.